

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1616

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

US MISSION NATO 2990

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 2040

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE, PFOR, XG, PARM

SUBJECT: CSCE: CBMS CANADIAN PROPOSAL FOR DIFFERENTIATED MANEUVER

REF: GENEVA 1713

STATE 55038

1. IN POST-EASTER SESSIONS OF ALLIED CAUCUS, WE ARE LIKELY TO BE ASKED BY CANADIANS AND OTHERS FOR U.S. VIEWS ON SUBSTANCE OF CANADIAN MANEUVERS PROPOSAL AND WHETHER U.S. SEES TIME AS RIPE FOR INTRODUCING IDEA IN CBM SUBCOMMITTEE. OUR CURRENT VIEW IS THAT CANADIAN PROPOSAL IS NOT A RESPONSE IN KIND TO RECENT SOVIET MOVE AND IS NO LONGER NECESSARY TO LOOSEN UP NEGOTIATING SITUATION. THUS WE SEE NO NEED TO PUT FULL WEIGHT OF U.S. AND ALLIANCE BEHIND CANADIAN MATRIX APPROACH. REQUEST GUIDANCE ON OUR SUGGESTED APPROACH, SET OUT BELOW.

2. ON OTHER HAND, PROPOSAL ITSELF SUBSTANTIALLY MAINTAINS NATO PARAMETERS AND DEMONSTRATES FLEXIBILITY ON HOW THESE PARAMETERS MAY BE LINKED, AND WE SEE NO OBJECTION TO HAVING CANADIANS FLOAT IDEA IN WIDER CONSULTATIONS, INCLUDING WITH PACT REPS, IF THEY WISH TO. MOREOVER,
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PROPOSAL IS MORE DESIRABLE THAN CURRENT NEUTRAL THINKING

ABOUT A "MATRIX" WITH VARYING LEVELS OF OBLIGATION AS WELL AS VARYING PARAMETERS. IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT THAT CANADIAN APPROACH SHOULD IN THE END BE ADOPTED BY ALL PARTICIPANTS, WE DO NOT FORESEE THAT U.S. OR NATO ALLIES WOULD HAVE ANY DIFFICULTY IMPLEMENTING THE PRESCRIBED OBLIGATIONS.

3. ACTION REQUESTED. FOR ABOVE REASONS, WE RECOMMEND THAT U.S. GIVE CANADIANS A "GREEN LIGHT" IN POST-EASTER PERIOD TO DISCUSS AND IMPLIFY THEIR PROPOSAL AS A CANADIAN NATIONAL IDEA IN CONTACTS WITH OTHERS AT CONFERENCE. IN REMOTE EVENT THAT PACT SHOWS POSITIVE INTEREST IN CANADIAN APPROACH, WE WOULD REQUEST FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE TAKING ANY FORMAL U.S. POSITION ON IT. REQUEST GUIDANCE FOR NATO CAUCUS ON APRIL 2.DALE

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